

The *Sternidius* of Arizona

(Coleoptera: Cerambycidae)

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This paper is an attempt to clarify existing confusion in the status of the Arizona components of the genus *Sternidius*. The species are small, obscure, and similar besides being poorly represented in most collections.

The author has examined specimens of all known species and subspecies of this genus occurring in the western United States, northern Mexico, and Baja California except *S. setipes* (Casey) 1891, which differs from other known forms by exhibiting long flying hairs on the tibiae. This character is not present in any of the specimens examined.

Descriptions follow for five species of *Sternidius* occurring in Arizona. One name is resurrected, one is synonymized and two species are described as new.

Sternidius LeConte

Amniscus Haldeman, 1847: (ex parte).

Liopus LeConte, 1852:170 (ex parte). Horn, 1880:123. Leng and Hamilton, 1896:121. Blatchley, 1910:1073. (misdet)

Leiopus Casey 1913:310. Knull, 1946:248 (misdet)

Sternidius LeConte, 1874:234.

LeConte founded the genus *Sternidius* to include a specific group of species. He differentiated it from Old World *Leopus* by the mesosternum which is "Straight and truncate between the coxae", and from *Leptostylus* by the "first joint of the hind tarsi being as long as the two following". "The thoracic tubercle varies in position but little and is about one fourth to one third from the base, obtuse, but not rounded. The sides are emarginate behind the tubercle but straight and oblique in front of it. There are no closed tubercles (leC. 1874)." Dillon summarizes this genus as being small, elongate oblong forms with a narrow posternal process, and a comparatively broad mesosternal process. The pronotal disk is feebly tri-tuberculate, densely punctate, with apical transverse sulcus wanting and broad entire basal sulcus forming a deep constriction behind the lateral tubercles which are placed at about the basal fourth (Dillon 1956).

The status of this genus needs clarification as no single structural character has been designated to allow generic distinction. Of interest, in the following species from Arizona, the basal pronotal margin is subequal or smaller than the apical margin. The converse is true in several of the eastern members of the genus i.e. *S. moderator* (Casey), *S. wiltoni* (Horn), *S. mimeticus* (Casey). This may be of future help in the redefining of this most difficult genus.

Key to the Species of *Sternidius* Occurring in Arizona

1. Fourth antennal segment subequal or shorter than scape *centralis*.
Fourth antennal segment distinctly longer than scape 2
2. Elytra distinctly costate, apices elongate *chemsaki*
Elytra with costae evanescent 3
3. Procoxal process one fifth or wider than procoxal cavity; pubescence of disk uniform, cinereous, (except for black areas); common macula small, well demarcated *imitans*
Procoxal process usually very narrow, (about one tenth width of procoxal cavity); pubescence of disk less uniform with tawny and black elements; apical third of elytra usually darker. Common macula variable, usually not well delineated 4
4. Elytra with apex of central dark area placed behind middle; pronotum without lateral vittae *decorus*
Elytra with apex of central dark area placed at about middle; distinct lateral vittae extend from behind mid-elytra to apical margin of pronotum *incognitus*

***Sternidius chemsaki*, new species**

Male: Form small, elongate; integument reddish brown to black, covered with cinereous pubescence; elytra with linearly spaced small black tufts and without black maculae. Head impunctate, frons covered with cinereous pubescence. Antennae eleven segmented, slender, elongate, annulate, at least one and a half times body length; pubescence cinereous, scarcely mottled, absent on apices of first seven segments and base and apex of distal four; fourth segment longer than scape, subequal to or slightly shorter than third, remaining segments gradually diminishing in length. Pronotum transverse, widest across lateral tubercles which are acute and placed at basal third; sides gradually divergent from anterior margin to lateral tubercles, then acutely constricted beneath forming a broad basal transverse sulcus; apex wider than base; disk with punctures small, dense, non contiguous, much smaller than those of elytra and partially obscured by pubescence which is cinereous and uniform; three dark callosities present in the form of an inverted triangle behind middle and two on each side just beneath apical margins. (These may be more or less obsolete in some specimens.) Elytra with sides distinctly longer than wide, slightly expanded at middle and gradually convergent to apices which are prolonged and acutely rounded. Disk with basal gibbosities prominent, piceous to black; immediately behind on each elytron is an obliquely placed more or less ferrugineous depression which contrasts with the darker integument behind; costae distinct, evanescent before apices; punctures dense, separate, partially obscured by pubescence, much larger than those of pronotum; largest behind basal gibbosities then becoming smaller and finer apically; pubescence recumbent, cinereous, (sometimes with tawny reflections) and with some condensation along costae; small black tufts present in variable number on basal gibbosities, along costae and sutural margin, and a prominent costate tuft is present at middle at apical third. Scutellum pubescent, impunctate, evenly rounded to triangular. Ventral surface with pubescence scarcely mottled on thoracic sternites, femora, and tibiae, uniform on abdominal sternites; procoxal process variable in size, usually one sixth to one fourth width of procoxal cavity; mesocoxal process slightly greater than one half width of mesocoxal cavity; distal tibiae usually darker with cinereous to black pubescence dorsally. Length 5.6 - 8.3 mm.

Female: Fifth abdominal sternite at least twice as long as fourth, otherwise similar to male. Length 6.2 - 8.9 mm.

Material examined: Holotype male, allotype (California Academy of Sciences) and 24 paratypes (10 male and 14 female) from Madera Canyon, Santa Rita Mountains, Santa Cruz county, Arizona, 4/5 Sept. 1966 (M.E. Pendleton); 21 July 1967 (A.E. Lewis); 17 July 1969 (A.E. Lewis); 21 Sept. 1969 (A.E. Lewis); 4 Sept. 1970; 19 Sept. 1970 (F.T. Hovore); 28 July 1971 (D.G. Marqua); 27 July 1972 (D.G. Marqua); 14-15 July 1975 (D.G. Marqua); 19 July 1975 (D.G. Marqua); 3 August 1975 (E. Giesbert); 24 July 1976 (D.G. Marqua); 8 August 1976 (A.E. Lewis); 21 July 1976 (F.T. Hovore); 27 July 1975 (F.T. Hovore). One female paratype, Miller Canyon, Cochise County Arizona, above 6000 ft. beating oak. Paratypes are deposited in the following collections: California Insect Survey, Berkeley; Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History; Whittier Narrows Nature Center, Los Angeles County; F.T. Hovore; E. Giesbert; and the collection of the author.

Most of the specimens seen have been taken at black light. This species may be differentiated from the others occurring in the same area by the absence of elytral maculae, the prolonged elytral apices and the distinct costae.

Sternidius centralis (LeConte)

Liopus centralis LeConte, 1884:24. Leng and Hamilton, 1896:123.

Sternidius centralis, Dillon, 1956:218.

Male: Form small, moderately robust; integument reddish brown to piceous, densely clothed with a combination of hoary and tawny pubescence; elytra with black maculae, and minute black tubercles. Head impunctate, mottled with dense brownish and hoary pubescence; eyes with lower lobe variable in height relationship to genae; frons usually feebly transverse. Antennae cylindrical, elongate, annulate, about one and one half times body length; pubescence cinereous and tawny, absent on apices of segments one through seven, and on base and apex of distal four; second segment black, remaining segments distinctly mottled, diminishing in degree distally; fourth segment subequal or slightly shorter than scape, third segment longer than fourth, remaining segments gradually decreasing in length. Pronotum transverse, widest across lateral tubercles which are acute and placed at basal third; sides divergent to lateral tubercles, then acutely constricted behind forming the broad basal sulcus; basal margin subequal or shorter than apical; disk usually with three calluses forming an inverted triangle; two on each side of middle just behind apical margin, and one at basal third; punctations dense, shallow, minute, at least partially obscured by pubescence; pubescence variable, but predominately hoary on side margins and lateral disk, and mixed with fulvous in the middle, forming three more or less distinct and slightly divergent vittae through callosities. Elytra slightly shorter than twice the width with sides weakly emarginate on basal third behind humeri, then from approximately the middle, rounded to apices; apices obliquely truncate to rounded with feeble truncations at sutural margin; basal gibbosities moderate; integument brown with dark spots as follows: a common, more or less triangular, black macula with the apex at mid elytra, the base at apical third, and lateral extension terminating before middle of disk, and a macula placed just behind basal fourth on each side, extending inferiorly to just behind middle, and medially to barely incorporate a small portion of the disk; costae variable, but usually semiprominent, partially obscured by pubescence and containing distinct minute black tufted tubercles; punctures dense, subconfluent, partially obscured by pubescence, much larger than those on pronotal disk, largest behind humeri, then gradually diminishing in size and depth apically; pubescence generally a mixture of hoary and brown; the hoary pubescence more or less condensed over humeri, along suture at basal half and along costae at apical half; the macular areas and costal tubercles are covered with black pubescence. Scutellum impunctate, rounded, mottled with hoary and brown. Ventral surface with coxae, femora and thoracic sternites distinctly mottled, abdominal sternites uniformly hoary to cinereous pubescent; procoxal process one fourth to one third diameter of procoxal cavity; mesosternal process one half to two thirds width of mesocoxal cavity; legs with distal tibiae and tarsi black pubescent: fifth sternite less than twice as long as fourth. Length 5.8-6.8 mm.

Female: Fifth sternite about twice as long as fourth, otherwise similar to male. Length 4.9 - 6.9 mm.

Type locality: Arizona

Range: Santa Cruz, Pima and Pinal Counties, Southern Arizona.

Material examined: Fourteen specimens from the following localities: 7.5. mi. S.E. Oracle, Pinal Co., 1-5, 14 & 15 July 1973 (D.G. Marqua); Montosa Canyon, Santa Rita Mts. Santa Cruz Co., 18 July 1976 (D.G. Marqua); Tucson, Pima Co., 12 August 1947 (L.R. Gillogly, Sabino Canyon, Pima Co., 13 July 1972 (A.E. Lewis); Box Canyon, Santa Rita Mts. Pima Co., 2 & 8 July 1975 (D.G. Marqua); Madera Canyon, Santa Rita Mts., Santa Cruz Co., 11 July 1973 (D.G. Marqua).

S. centralis can be separated from the other maculate species in Arizona by its more robust form, semiprominent costae, and the characters given in the key. The adults are occasionally taken at light.

Sternidius imitans (Knull)

Leiopus imitans Knull, 1936:107.

Male: Form small, moderately robust; integument dark brown to piceous, densely clothed with recumbent cinereous pubescence; pronotal disk with three small callosities; elytra with black maculae and small black tufts. Head impunctate; frons covered with cinereous pubescence, horizontal to feebly transverse. Antennae slender, cylindrical, distinctly mottled, extending at least one and one half times body length; pubescence absent on apices of first six or seven segments, and on base and apex of remainder, much more uniform distally; fourth segment longer than scape, shorter than third, remaining segments gradually decreasing in length. Pronotum transverse, widest across acute lateral tubercles which are placed at basal fourth; sides gradually divergent from anterior margin to tubercles, then acutely constricted to form basal transverse sulcus; basal margin shorter than apical; punctures fine, dense, non confluent, obscured by uniform cinereous pubescence, three contrasting black pubescent callosities present, one behind middle and one on each side just beneath apical margins forming an inverted triangle. Scutellum impunctate, rounded to triangular, pubescent. Elytra about twice as long as wide, sides subparallel to basal third then slightly expanded and broadly convergent to apices which are usually rounded but may be subtruncate at sutural margin; basal gibbositities not prominent; punctures distinct, dense, larger than those of pronotum, largest at basal third, then becoming finer apically, partially obscured by vestiture; pubescence recumbent, uniform, cinereous without an admixture of fulvous, usually with slight condensation surrounding black macular areas; dense black pubescent macular areas as follows: a common rounded to triangular spot at about apical third not extending laterally beyond middle of disk and a lateral round spot at basal third on each side extending medially to include about one fourth to one third of the disk; in addition numerous black setae are linearly placed in five longitudinal rows; costae obsolete or evanescent. Ventral surface densely pubescent, with thoracic sternites, femora and tibiae distinctly mottled; procoxal process one fifth to one fourth the width of procoxal cavity; mesocoxal process about one half width of mesocoxal cavity; legs mottled with cinereous pubescence except for basal one fourth to one fifth of tibiae which are at least in part black annulate, and tarsi which are black pubescent dorsally. Fifth abdominal sternite less than twice length of fourth. Length 4.9-7.7 mm.

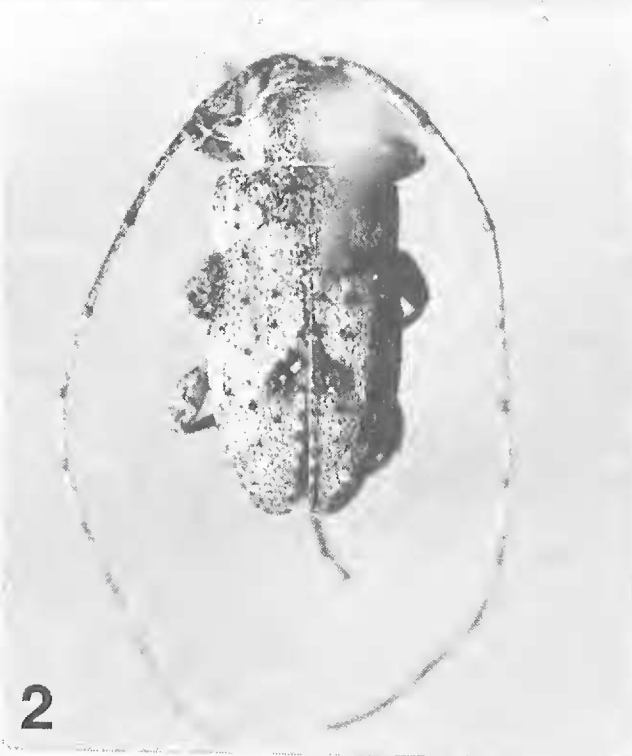
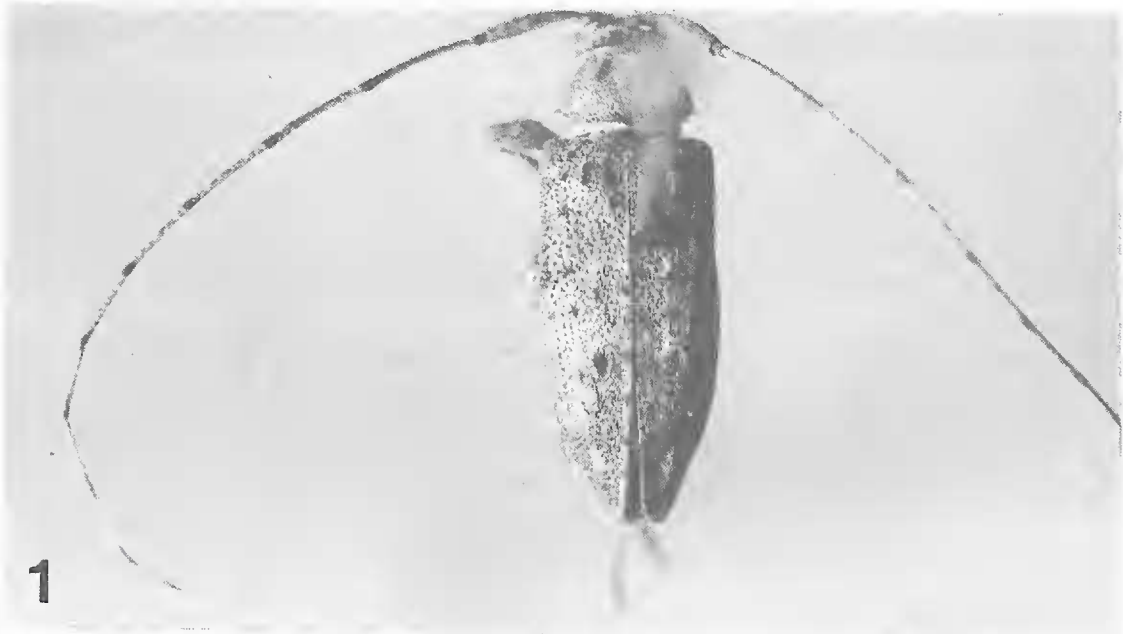
Female: Fifth sternite twice as long as fourth. Length 4.9 - 7.3 mm.

Type locality: Davis Mountains, Texas.

Range: Davis Mountains Texas, mountains of southern Arizona to Hualapai Mountains, Mojave Co., Arizona.

Flight period: June to September

Fig. 1. *Sternidius chemsaki*. Fig. 2. *Sternidius centralis*. Fig. 3. *Sternidius imitans*. Fig. 4. *Sternidius decorus*. Fig. 5. *Sternidius incognitus*.



Host: This species has been taken by beating foliage of various species of oak. (*Quercus spp.*)

Material examined: Thirty-seven specimens were examined from the following localities: numerous records from Madera Canyon, Santa Rita Mts., Santa Cruz Co. Ariz. on various dates in July, August and September; one, Montosa Canyon, Santa Rita Mts. Ariz. 10 July 1975 (D.G. Marqua); one, Montezuma National Memorial, Huachuca Mts. Cochise Co. Ariz. 27 July 1969 (A.E. Lewis); one, Hualapai Mts. Mojave Co. Ariz, 3 August 1975 (A.E. Lewis); Davis Mts., Brewster Co., Texas, 24 June 1948 (J.N. Knull); Davis Mts., June and July (A.E. Lewis).

S. imitans can be readily separated from the other species occurring in the same area by the absence of fulvous pubescence, the wide separation of lateral and discal maculae and the characters given in the key.

Sternidius decorus (Fall)

Liopus decorus Fall, 1907:84

Sternidius centralis Dillion, 1956:218 (part).

Sternidius decorus, Linsley, Knull, and Statham, 1961:29.

Sternidius alpha arizonensis Dillon, 1956:217 **New Synonymy.**

Male: Form small, moderately robust, integument reddish brown to piceous, covered with cinereous pubescence, often with black and tawny reflections; elytra with black maculae and minute scattered black spots. Head impunctate, covered with cinereous pubescence. Antennae linear, annulate, elongate, slightly more than one and a half times body length; pubescence cinereous, absent on apices of segments one through seven, and base and apex of remainder, distinctly mottled on scape and third segment, becoming less so on distal segments; second segment black; fourth segment longer than scape, subequal to or shorter than third, remaining segments gradually decreasing in length; pronotum transverse, widest across lateral tubercles which are acute and placed at basal third: sides gradually divergent to tubercles then acutely constricted behind forming basal transverse sulcus; basal margin subequal or shorter than apical; disk with punctures small, dense, partially hidden by vestiture; three distinct callosities in the form of an inverted triangle present on disk; elongate one at middle, and one just behind apical margin on each side; pubescence scarcely mottled, cinereous, with or without a mixture of brownish in the central portion of the disk. Elytra moderately robust, length about twice width; sides subparallel to middle, (slightly indented behind humeri,) then barely expanded and broadly rounded to apices, which are obliquely truncate or rounded to sutural margin; basal gibbositities moderate, costae subobsolete, obscured by pubescence; punctures dense, distinct, subconfluent, much larger than those of pronotum, largest behind humeri then gradually becoming smaller and more shallow apically, all partially obscured by vestiture; pubescence predominantly cinereous and black with a variable admixture of tawny; black pubescent areas include a macula on each side placed at about basal fourth which extends medially to include at least the lateral third of the disk, a common triangular area with apex behind mid elytra, the sides diverging at about 45 degrees to meet a poorly formed and variable base which may or may not extend to the lateral margin; anterior to this macula, the pubescence is uniformly cinereous, with or without tawny, forming a saddle, posteriorly the vestiture is usually darker, variable, and made up of cinereous, tawny and black elements; in addition, small black spots are present longitudinally, (the size and extent varying with individual specimens). Ventral surface pubescent with thoracic sternites and femora mottled. Procoxal process very narrow, about one tenth the width of procoxal cavity; mescoxal process about one half width of mescoxal cavity; tibiae distally and tarsi black; abdomen with fifth sternite about as long as fourth. Length 4.4 - 7.0 mm.

Female: Fifth abdominal sternite twice as long as fourth. Length 4.2 - 7.2 mm.

Type locality: of *decorus*, Williams, Arizona; of *alpha arizonensis*, Cave Creek, Chiricahua Mts., Arizona.

Host: This species is taken at black light and has been captured beating dead branches of various species of oaks in montane southern and northern Arizona.

Range: Montane areas of southern Arizona, Cochise and Santa Cruz Counties to Coconino County.

Flight period: July and August.

Material examined: Eighty-seven specimens from the following localities: Madera Canyon, Santa Rita Mts. Santa Cruz Co., July and August; Montosa Canyon, Santa Rita Mts., 10 July 1975 (D.G. Marqua); Miller Canyon, Huachuca Mts. Cochise Co., various dates in July (A.E. Lewis); Dragoon Mts. Cochise Co., 19 July 1972 (D.G. Marqua); 4 mi. S.E. Patagonia, Santa Cruz Co., 4 July 1974 (D.G. Marqua).

While studying numerous examples of *Sternidius centralis*, it became apparent that the name covered two distinct species. These corresponded to *S. centralis* (LeConte) and *S. decorus* (Fall) based upon examination of photographs of the types. Therefore, *S. decorus* has been resurrected as a valid species. The type of *S. alpha arizonensis* (Dillon) appears to be just a small specimen of *S. decorus* (Fall).

S. decorus can be readily distinguished from *S. imitans* by the presence of fulvus pubescence, by having the common macula ill-defined and usually extending to the lateral margin of the elytral disk, and the characters given in the key. It is separable from *S. centralis* by having the procoxal process narrower, about one tenth the width of the procoxal cavity in most specimens, and in having the fourth antennal segment distinctly longer than the scape.

***Sternidius incognitus* New species**

Male: Form small, moderately robust; color brown to piceous, covered with predominantly cinereous pubescence; sides of pronotum and elytra with black markings. Head impunctate, covered with cinereous pubescence; frons transverse. Antennae at least one and a half times as long as body, slender, annulate; scape slightly mottled, third segment much less so, subopaque; pubescence of remaining segments sparse, more or less uniform; fourth segment longer than scape, subequal to third; remainder of segments gradually decreasing in length. Pronotum transverse, widest across acute lateral tubercles which are placed at basal third; sides gradually divergent to tubercles then abruptly constricted behind forming the basal transverse sulcus; basal and apical margins subequal; punctures small, dense, shallow, partially obscured by vestiture; disk with three callosities, more or less coalescent and devoid of cinereous pubescence; one each side of middle just behind apex, one median, elongate, extending to basal margin; sides with a distinct fuscous vitta running the entire length of pronotum. Scutellum triangular to broadly rounded, impunctate, pubescent. Elytra moderately robust, about as long as wide; sides subparallel to middle (scarcely indented behind humeri), then slightly expanded and gradually convergent to apex, apices rounded to subtruncate; punctures of disk dense, subconfluent, much larger than those of pronotum, largest at basal third, then gradually decreasing in size to apex, partially obscured by pubescence; punctation of sides distinct, subconfluent (as large as disk), not obscured by pubescence along vittae; costae evanescent; macular areas as follows: disk with a common black triangular area with its apex at mid-elytra, and sides diverging from suture at an angle of about 45 degrees or greater, not or reaching the lateral border; sides with a lateral vitta, extending from behind middle to basal margin, then along sides of pronotum as above described. The vitta encroaches medially to include less than one tenth of the disk, and is thus subobsolete when viewed from above; pubescence black over vittae, cinereous with tawny components forming a saddle anterior to common macula, behind (within the demarcated apical area) darker, composed of black, cinereous, and tawny elements in variable combination; rows of small blackish spots varying in extent and number among individuals

present. Underside scarcely mottled; femora with dark spot just proximal to club on some specimens, distal tibiae black, annulate; tarsi black; procoxal process narrow, about one tenth the width of procoxal cavity; mesocoxal process about one half the width of mesocoxal cavity; fifth abdominal sternite subequal to fourth. Length 4.7 - 6.2 mm.

Female: Fifth abdominal sternite about twice the length of fourth. Length 4.7 - 6.0 mm.

Material examined: Holotype female, (California Academy of Sciences) Madera Canyon, Santa Rita Mts. Santa Cruz County, Arizona, 10-15 July 1975 (A.E. Lewis). Twelve paratypes: four females, three males, same data as holotype; two males, one female, Madera Canyon, 27 July 1976 (F.T. Hovore); two males, Miller Canyon, Huachuca Mts. Cochise County, Arizona 20-24 July 1969 (A.E. Lewis). Paratypes are deposited in the California Insect Survey, Berkeley; Whittier Narrows Nature Center Collection, Los Angeles County; F.T. Hovore Collection; and that of the author.

This species is closely related and structurally similar to *S. decorus* and it has been taken in conjunction with that species above 6000 ft. beating dead oak, (*Quercus* sp.). It differs in having the sides of the pronotum and elytra vittate; the dorsal macula placed at mid-elytra; and the subopaque, scarcely mottled third antennal segment.

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ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

The following Opinions have been published recently by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

- Opinion No. 1065 (Bull. zool. Nom. 33 (3&4) page 151) *Polyzonium germanicum* Brandt, 1837, conserved: *Platyulus audouinii* Gervais, 1836, suppressed (Diplopoda, POLYZONIIDAE).
- Opinion No. 1066 (Bull. zool. Nom. 33 (3&4) page 155) *Lyda alternans* Costa, 1859 under plenary powers given precedence over *Lyda inanis* Klug, 1808 (Insecta: Coleoptera).
- Opinion No. 1073 (Bull. zool. Nom. 33 (3&4) page 172). Under plenary powers family name RIODINIDAE Grote, 1895 (Lepidoptera) to have precedence as from 1827 and ERYCINIDAE Swainson, 1827 ruled invalid and placed on Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology.
- Opinion No. 1075 (Bull. zool. Nom. 33 (3&4) page 176) *Striglina* Guenée given precedence under plenary powers over *Daristane* Walker, 1859 (Lepidoptera, THYRIDIDAE).

The Commission cannot supply separates of Opinions.